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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/806,945

03/22/2004

Yi-Lung Kuo

23724-07788

2833

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7590

08/10/2006

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EXAMINER

WRIGHT, INGRID D

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2835

DATE MAILED: 08/10/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/806,945

Applicant(s)

KUO, YI-LUNG

Examiner

Ingrid Wright

Art Unit

2835

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 May 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 11 and 12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 11 and 12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 3/22/04 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>4 Attachments</u> |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen et al. US 6685286 B2 in view of Gebara et al. US 6137678. Note: See notations on attached fig. 1 & 2 of Chen et al. for elements representing limitations claimed in the instant application.

With respect to claim 1, Chen et al. teaches a system for facilitating installation of and access to a computer drive within a computer (see, Abstract of Chen et al.), the system comprising: a chassis (10) configured to be opened at a top side thereof to allow access to inside the computer; a bay (see, fig. 1) for receiving an electronic storage device (see, col. 2, lines 20-23 of Chen et al.), the bay attached to the chassis (2), a removable mounting structure (30) for receiving at least one electronic storage device, the mounting structure (30) adapted to be mounted within the computer chassis (10) and an attachment mechanism (48) for detachably coupling the mounting structure (30) to the computer chassis (10) below the bay, but is silent as to specifically a small form factor computer.

Gebara et al. teaches a small form factor computer comprising a chassis (401) and a removable tray (60), a floppy drive (219) and wherein a CD-ROM or a tape storage drive (220) is interchangeably stacked upon each other.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize a small form factor computer chassis of Gebara, in the invention of Chen et al., in order to provide an alternate and equivalent computer housing for the storage devices of Chen et al.

2. Claims 2-8,11 &12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen et al. US 6685286 B2 in view of Gebara et al. US 6137678, further in view of Mills et al. US 6075694 & Lin et al. US 6227631 B1. Note: See notations on attached fig. 2 of Lin et al. & 5 of Mills et al. for elements representing limitations claimed in the instant application.

With respect to claim 2, in regards to all the limitations of claim 1 above, Chen et al. as modified by Gebara et al., teaches a mounting structure (30) capable of receiving a small disk drives interchangeably stackable and an additional mounting structure (70) capable of receiving interchangeably stackable data storage devices (see, col.2, lines 12-37 of Chen et al.), and a CD-ROM drive and a CD ROM or Tape storage drive (220) interchangeably stacked upon each other, but is silent as to specifically a floppy drive and a hard disk drive interchangeably stacked upon each other.

Mills et al. teaches a floppy disk drive, a hard disk drive and a CD-ROM drive interchangeably stacked upon each other, within a bay (200) of a computer chassis.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize the stacked drive configuration of Mills et al., in the invention of Chen as modified by Gebara et al., in order to provide an alternate equivalent means of housing storage devices within the computer chassis of Chen et al. as modified by Gebara et al.

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Additionally, in another mounting configuration, Lin et al. teaches a mounting structure (8), designed to receive at least two disk drives of different sizes (see, col. 1, lines 33-36 of Lin et al.).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize a mounting structure of Lin et al., in the invention of Chen et al. as modified by Gebara et al., in order to provide an alternate equivalent means of allowing varied storages devices to be housed in the computer chassis of Chen et al as modified by Gebara et al.

With respect to claim 3, in regards to all the limitations of claim 1 above, Chen et al. as modified by Gebara et al., teaches a mounting structure (30,70) designed to receive at least two disk drives of different sizes, and a mounting structure (60) capable of receiving at least two disk drives of different sizes.

With respect to claim 4, in regards to all the limitations of claim 1 above, Chen et al. as modified by Gebara et al., teaches a mounting structure (30), which comprises a base panel (32), two side panels (34,36), and a flange (38,44) bordering each side panel (34,36), wherein the connection between each side panel (34,36) and its corresponding flange (38,44,40,46) is substantially parallel to the connection between the side panel (34,36) and the base panel (32).

With respect to claim 5, in regards to all the limitations of claim 1 above, Chen et al. as modified by Gebara et al., teaches an attachment mechanism, comprising tabs (132) and a hollow space (42) fitted to receive the tabs (132).

With respect to claim 6, in regards to all the limitations of claim 1 above, Chen et al. as modified by Gebara et al., teaches a hollow space (42) located on the mounting structure (30).

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With respect to claim 7, Chen et al. teaches a system for facilitating installation of and access to a computer drive (see, col. 2, lines 20-24 of Chen et al.), the system comprising: a mounting structure (30) comprising a base panel (32), two side panels (34,36), and a flange (38,40,44,46) bordering each side panel (34,36), wherein the connection between each side panel (34,36) and its corresponding flange (38,40,44,46) is substantially parallel to the connection between the side panel (34,36) and the base panel (32), each side panel (34,36) containing a hole (see, fig. 1) for a screw, and each flange (38,44) containing a hole (see, fig. 1) for a screw and a downward tab (48), the mounting structure (30) capable of receiving a drive such that the drives rest on the base panel (32); a first drive bay (see, fig. 1) within a computer for receiving a storage device and a second drive bay (see, fig. 1) within a computer located below the first drive bay (see, fig. 1) capable of receiving the mounting structure (30) through a top side of the computer when the first drive bay is empty, the second drive bay containing at least two screw holes (see, fig. 1), two hollow tabs (132) and downward tabs (48) on the flanges (38,40,44,46) of the mounting structure (30) by which the mounting structure (30) can be attached to the drive bay (see, fig. 1), the drive bay further capable of supporting g drives stackable on the mounting structure (30), but is silent specifically as to a CD ROM drive being supported by the second drive bay.

Mills et al. teaches a floppy disk drive, a hard disk drive and a CD-ROM drive interchangeably stacked on each other, within a bay (200) of a computer chassis.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize the stacked drive configuration of Mills et al., in the invention of Chen et al. as modified by Gebara et al., in order to provide an alternate equivalent means of housing storage devices within the computer chassis of Chen et al. as modified by Gebara et al.

Additionally, in another mounting configuration, Lin et al. teaches a mounting structure (8), designed to receive at least two disk drives of different sizes, which includes a CD-ROM drive (see, col. 1, lines 33-36 & col. 2, lines 14-19 of Lin et al.).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize the mounting structure of Lin et al., in the invention of Chen et al., in order to provide an alternate equivalent means of allowing varied storages devices to be housed in the computer chassis of Chen et al.

In regards to the method claims 8,11 & 12, the methods steps recited in the claims 8,11 & 12 are taught by Chen et al. Chen et al. disclosed securing a computer drive (see, Abstract of Chen et al.) to a mounting structure (30) & (70), wherein the (30) comprising a base panel (32), two side panels (34,36), and a flange (38,40,44,46) bordering each side panel (34,36), wherein the connection between each side panel (34,36) and its corresponding flange (38,40,44,46) is substantially parallel to the connection between the side panel (34,36) and the base panel (32); the mounting structure (30) and computer drive placed in a computer fitted through a top side to receive the mounting structure (30); the mounting structure (30) secured to the computer, and a computer system component installed in the computer at a location above the mounting structure, wherein the mounting structure (30) is designed to receive at least two drives of different sizes, wherein a computer drive is accessed, a computer system component is removed from inside the computer, mounting structure (30) is removed from a computer, the computer drive is access from the outside of the computer, the mounting structure (30) re-attached to the computer to the computer, and the computer system component reinstalled in the computer location above the mounting structure (30).

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments, filed 5/24/06, with respect to claims, 1-8, 11 & 12, have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

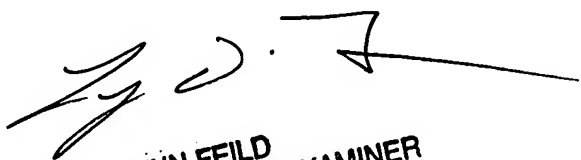
4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure: Adams et al. US 6238026 B1 shows the state of the art regarding storage devices in computers with mounting bracket configurations.

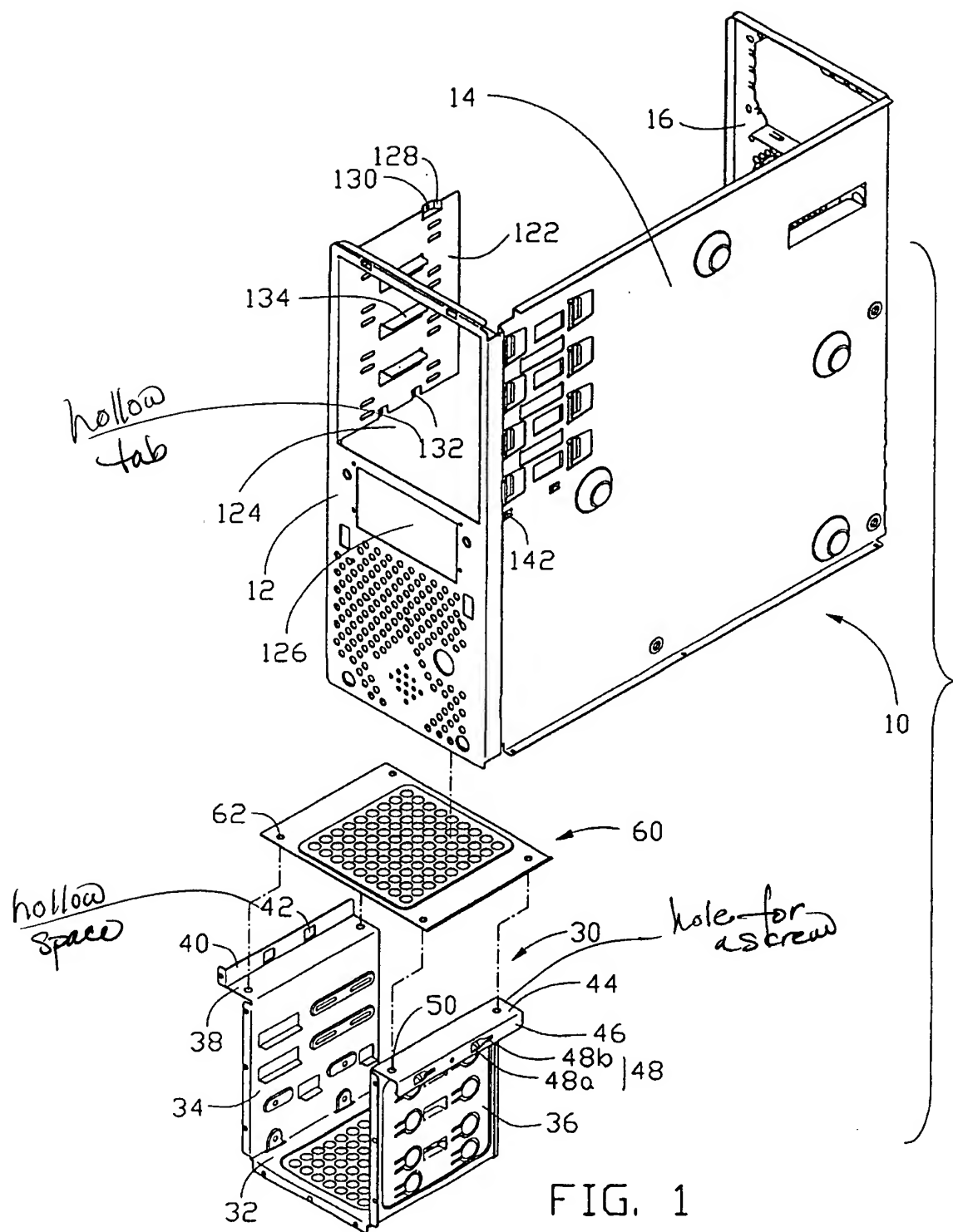
5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ingrid Wright whose telephone number is (571)272-8392. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

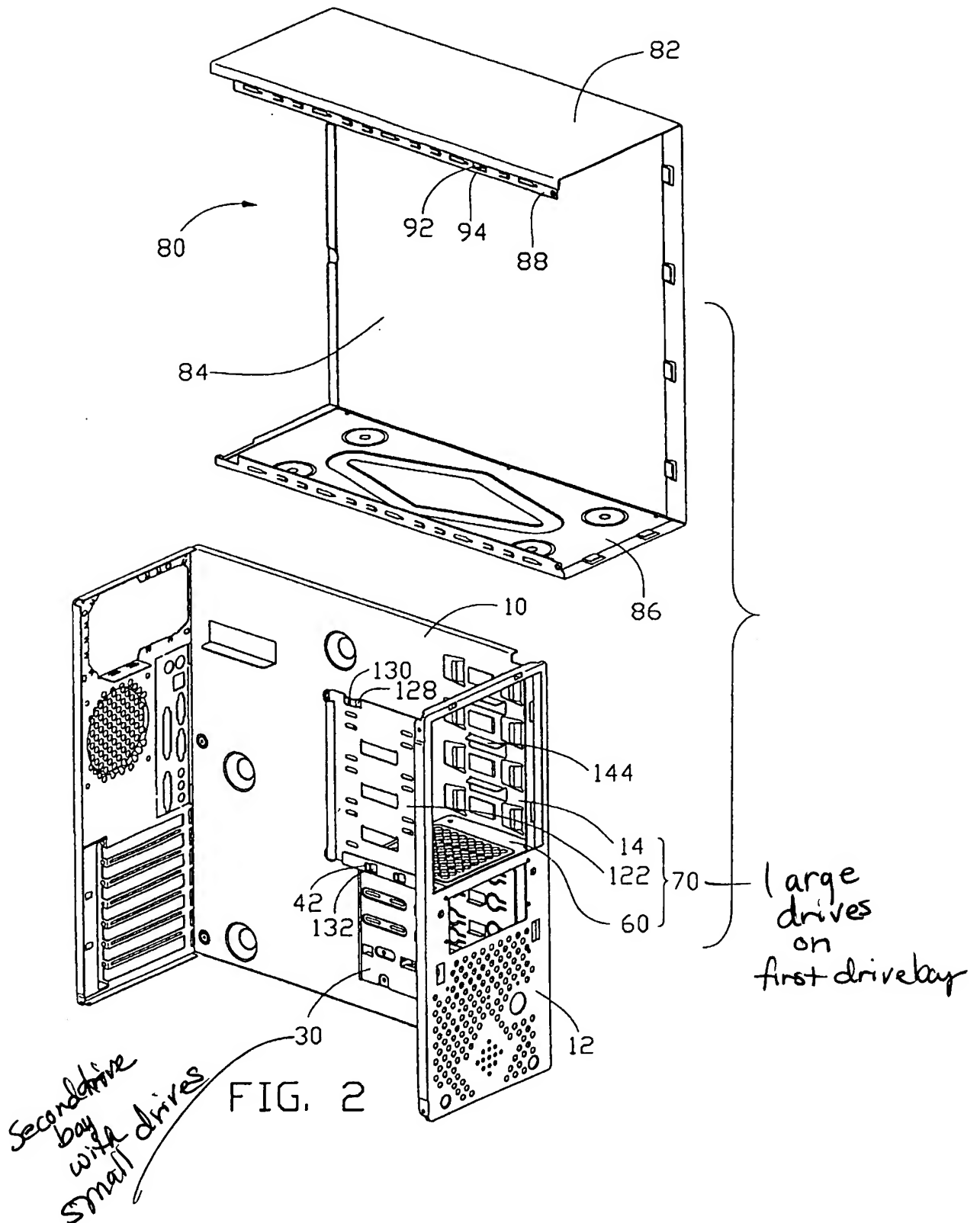
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynn Feild can be reached on (571)272-2800, ext 35. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

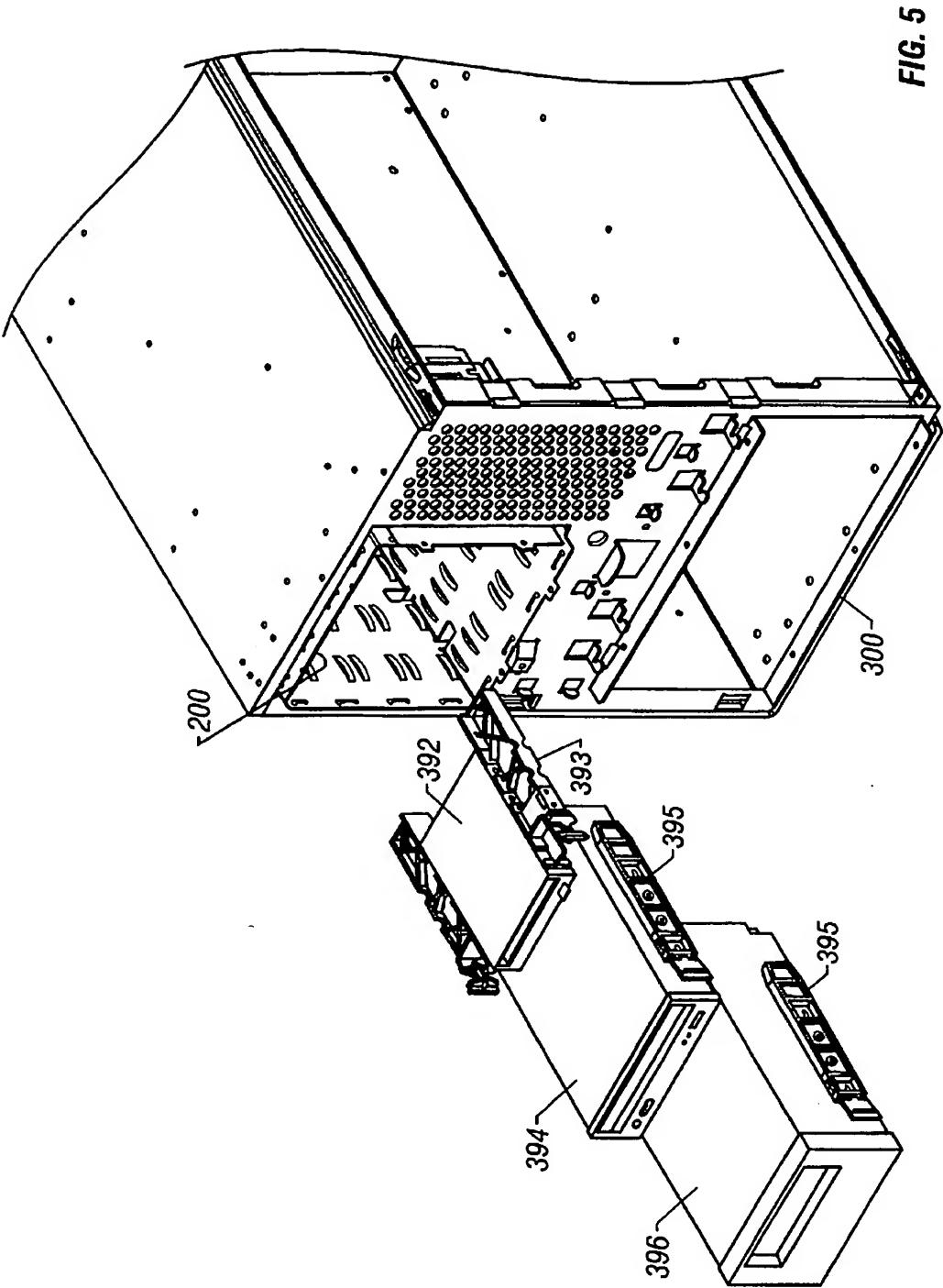
Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

IDW


LYNN FEILD
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER







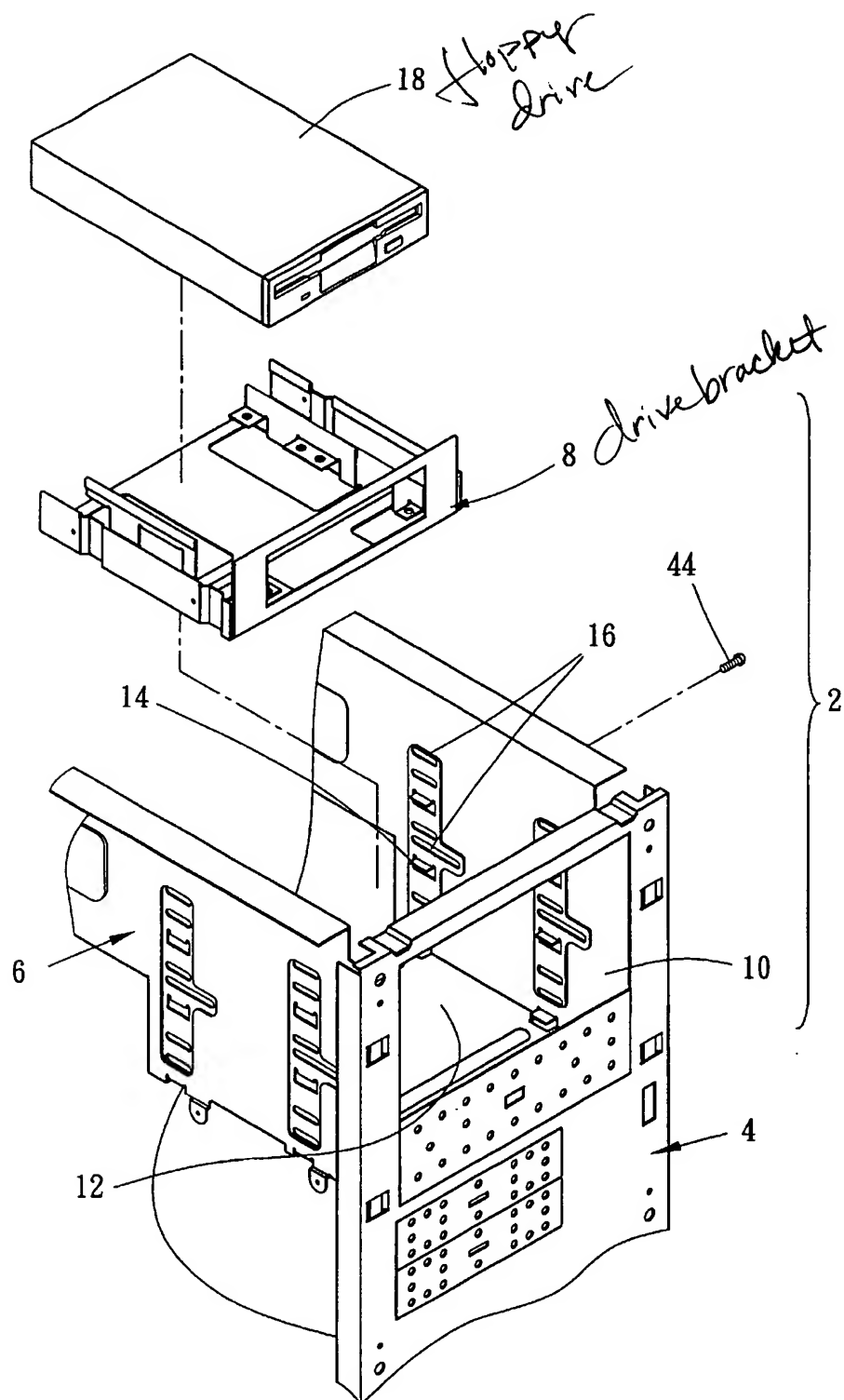


FIG. 2